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Dkt. 64682-Z/JPW/AG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ponnappakkam Adikesavan Loka Bharathi et al.
Serial No.: 10/645,131
Filed : August 21, 2003
For : PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN EXTRACT WITH
CAROTENOIDS, UV ABSORPTION ANTIBACTERIAL AND pH
INDICATING PROPERTIES FROM A DEEP SEA BACTERIUM

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
September 22, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO AUGUST 27, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

This Communication is submitted in response to the Office Action issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 27, 2004 in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the August 27, 2004 Office Action is due September 27, 2004. Therefore, this Communication is being timely filed.

In the September 27, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following allegedly independent and distinct inventions characterized by the following Groups I-IV:

- I. Group I, claims 1-5, drawn to a bacteria, classified in class 424, subclass 93.4, for example;
- II. Group II, claims 6-10, drawn to process for making an extract, classified in class 424, subclass 780, for example;
- III. Group III, claims 13-15, drawn to a method of enhancing color, classified in class 424, subclass 439, for example;
and